polypeptide encoded by said polynucleotide, wherein said polypeptide produced [comprises a polypeptide sequence which is at least 95% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2] <u>when it has a sequence other than that of SEQ ID NO:2 will bind to a ligand which binds to a polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2</u>.

Remarks

The above amendment is clerical in nature and merely clarifies the claims. Support for the above changes may be found on pages 23-24 of the specification, for example. Claims 21-54 are pending.

With regard to the utility of polypeptides produce by the process claims that are presently before the Examiner, such is believed to be clear in view of the above amendment and the original specification, particularly in view of the state of the art, for the following reasons.

The specification teaches how to utilize the polynucleotide according to SEQ ID NO:1 (and/or of the biological deposit) as a probe for chromosome identification and implicates the polypeptide(s) encoded thereby as being receptors involved in T-cell mediated diseases (see page 23, last full paragraph, for example). In addition, the polynucleotides having at least 95% sequence identity would be useful as probes to isolate the useful

polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:1 from a composition comprising the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:1.

Thus, the starting materials for the process for producing the polypeptides are fully supported by the specification as indicated above. The only issue, therefore, is the utility of the polypeptides produced.

As presently claimed the polypeptides resulting from such processes as claimed in the present process claims, which polypeptides have a structure other than a polypeptide according to SEQ ID NO:2 will have the ability to bind a ligand that the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2 also has the ability to bind.

Page 23 of the specification, at the second full paragraph, highlights the significance of polypeptides that have the ability to also bind a ligand that would have bound to the polypeptide according to SEQ ID NO:2. Such polypeptides are useful for developing less than full-length or inactive polypeptides that will competitively bind the ligand and usurp the function of the polypeptide according to SEQ ID NO:2 or its equivalents.

Further, one of ordinary skill would fully appreciate in view of the state of the art taken in view the discussion at pages 23 and 24 of the specification, that such polypeptides would also be useful as scavengers for certain ligands that also bind the polypeptide according to SEQ ID NO:2. A process for isolating such

ligands from a mixture of cell fragments, for example, could readily use such polypeptides as scavengers for such ligands. Specific details for such scavenger process are well-known in the art and do not require any further particular details other than those at pages 23 and 24 for such processes to be appreciated and utilized.

Moreover, the G-coupled protein receptor and ligand art is well-developed and screens for identifying a ligand which binds to both the G-coupled protein receptor according to SEQ ID NO:2, for example, and a polypeptide produced by the above process claims exist. Therefore, such polypeptides would be useful for isolating ligands which bind to the G-coupled protein receptor according to the invention.

For the above stated reasons, in view of the above amendments, this case is believed to now be in condition for allowance. An early notice to that effect is urged.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below number if any further action by applicant would expedite the examination of this application.

TELECOPIER TRANSMISSION CERTIFICATE

Send date: July 11, 1997

I hereby certify that this paper and the attachments hereto are being sent by telecopier transmission to 703-308-0294 on the date indicated above addressed to:

Box Amendent - No Fee Due
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

J.G. Mullins, Esq. — Date 7/11/97

Respectfully submitted,

J.G. Mullins, Esq.
Reg. No. 33,073

CARELLA, BYRNE, BAIN,
GILFILLAN, CECCHI, STEWART
& OLSTEIN
Six Becker Farm Road
Roseland, NJ 07068
Tel. No.: (201) 994-1700

N:\H\HGS-AMD2.449